

5

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Whole empty viral particles of infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV), which contain all of the antigenically-relevant proteinaceous constituents present in determinant IBDV virions. The whole empty virus particles are readily produced in suitable expression systems to provide capsids that can be used in the production of vaccines against avian disease, e.g., infectious bursitis caused by IBDV, and in the development of gene therapy vectors.